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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/709,461	11/13/2000	Tadao Yamaguchi	400926	4187

23548 7590 04/23/2003
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EXAMINER

LAM, THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

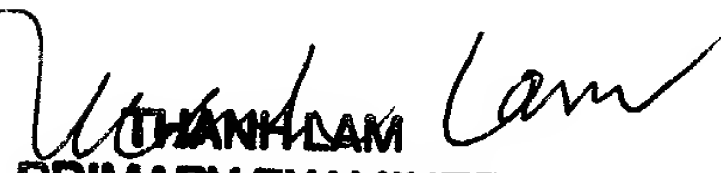
Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on 3/18/2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant elects the alleged species of Figures 5 and 6 upon which claims 2-6, 9, and 10 may be read, However, the claim 9 does not read on the elected figures 5 and 6, the claim 9 reads on the figure 3 instead, therefore, Applicant is required the further election requirement. Prompt and favorable. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (703) 308-7626. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3432 for regular communications and (703) 305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0656.


THANH LAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

April 16, 2003